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INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/CA 03/02002

I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the elements of the international application (Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17)):

Description, Pages

1-15 as originally filed

Claims, Numbers

1-8 filed with telefax on 17.03.2005

Drawings, Sheets

1/2-2/2 as originally filed

2. With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language: , which is:

- the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of the international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- contained in the international application in written form.
- filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- the description, pages:
- the claims, Nos.:
- the drawings, sheets:

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5. This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed (Rule 70.2(c)).

(Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.)

6. Additional observations, if necessary:

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, Inventive step or Industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Yes: Claims	1-8
	No: Claims	
Inventive step (IS)	Yes: Claims	1-8
	No: Claims	
Industrial applicability (IA)	Yes: Claims	1-8
	No: Claims	

2. Citations and explanations

see separate sheet

**INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT - SEPARATE SHEET**

International application No. PCT/CA 03/02002

Re Item V**Reasoned statement with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**

Reference is made to the following documents :

D1: US 3,878,871

D2: US 6,391,129

The document D1 is regarded as being the closest prior art to the subject-matter of claim 1, and shows (the references in parentheses applying to this document): a corrosion resistant aluminium alloy with the same composition as the one of claim 1.

The subject-matter of claim 1 differs from this known alloy in that it is homogenized at a temperature between 580 and 620 °C and then extruded into a tubing and brazed.

The subject-matter of claim 1 is therefore new (Article 33(2) PCT) (same considerations for independent claims 2 and 3).

The temperature range for the homogenization is to be found in D2 also relating to an aluminium alloy of a different composition.

Nevertheless, there is no indications to be found in the state of the art, that would lead the skilled man in the art to such a combination of features.

Therefore, the subject-matter of claim 1 involves an inventive step (same considerations for claims 2 and 3).

Claims 4 to 8 are dependent on claim 3 and as such also meet the requirements of the PCT with respect to novelty and inventive step.